

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 RSC-01 ISO-00

FEA-01 AEC-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-01

TRSE-00 FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /129 W

----- 006392

R 221806Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1747

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 0206

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, AG

SUBJ: EVE OF OPEC CONFERENCE

REF: ALGIERS 0096

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1. BUILD-UP FOR JANUARY 24/26 OPEC CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN

AND FINANCE MINISTERS HAS BEEN GROWING OVER PAST WEEK WITH PRESS AND GOA DEVOTING INCREASING TIME AND SPACE TO ISSUES AND ARRANGEMENTS.

2. BUILD-UP HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

(A) REITERATION OF BOUMEDIENE'S CALL FOR NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER AND ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL LIBERATION OF THIRD WORLD;

(B) WIDESPREAD CRITICISM OF US STATEMENTS ON USE OF FORCE, OF ALLEGED US EFFORTS TO DIVIDE OPEC, AND OF WIDE RANGE OF ALLEGED AMERICAN EVIL INTENTIONS IN WORLD;

(C) STRESS THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR INFLATION RESTS WITH MISGUIDED DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, AND NOT HIGH OIL PRICES.

3. HARD INFORMATION ON OPEC AGENDA UNFORTUNATELY CONTINUES TO BE ABSENT. EMBASSY HAS NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON AGENDA THAN THAT CONTAINED PARA 2 REFTEL. ALGERIANS, AT LEAST, NOW SEEM TO BE FOCUSING ON BIG PICTURE OF RESTRUCTURING WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER RATHER THAN ON SPECIFIC PROPOSALS.

4. ALTHOUGH PRESS PORTRAYING CONFERENCE AS POSSIBLE "DECISIVE TURNING POINT IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS", SPECULATION IS THAT WHILE CONFERENCE WILL PROVIDE VERBAL PYROTECHNICS AND OCCASION FOR PILLORYING US AND POSSIBLY FOR SOME INTERNAL OPEC MANEUVERING, HARD DECISIONS WILL PROBABLY AWAIT SUBSEQUENT OPEC SUMMIT MEETING WHICH OBSERVERS HERE NOT PREDICTING FOR END FEBRUARY/EARLY MARCH. (ACCORDING SAUDI AMBASSADOR, PURPOSE OF MEETING IS TO AGREE ON AGENDA AND LAY GROUNDWORK FOR SUBSEQUENT SUMMIT, NOT TO TAKE POLICY DECISIONS.) PARKER

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